

Listing and Amendment of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising steps of:
enabling a user to select a recording title stored on a digital storage medium in a first program chain for password protection, said first program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications;
receiving a password from said user for said selected recording title;
storing said password for said selected recording title on said digital storage medium in said first program chain;
storing a password menu screen for said selected recording title on said digital storage medium in said first program chain, wherein said password menu screen prompts said user to input said password if playback of said selected recording title is attempted; and
requiring said password to be input before playing back said selected recording title.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of storing at least one command on said digital storage medium in said first program chain.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said at least one command causes said password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said at least one command is created and stored in response to receiving said password from said user.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said at least one command includes a PRE command according to DVD specifications.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of creating said password menu screen in response to receiving said password from said user.

8. (Currently Amended) A digital recording and playback apparatus, comprising:
interface means for interfacing said digital recording and playback apparatus with a digital storage medium; and

control means for enabling a user to select a recording title stored on said digital storage medium in a first program chain for password protection, said first program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications, said control means receiving a password from said user for said selected recording title, causing said password to be stored on said digital storage medium in said first program chain, causing a password menu screen for said selected recording title to be stored on said digital storage medium in said first program chain, and requiring said password to be input before playing back said selected recording title, and wherein said password menu screen prompts said user to input said password if playback of said selected recording title is attempted.

9. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 8, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

10. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 8, wherein said control means further causes at least one command to be stored on said digital storage medium in said first program chain.

11. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 10, wherein said at least one command causes said password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted.

12. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 10, wherein said control means creates said at least one command and causes said at least one command to be stored on said digital storage medium in said first program chain in response to an input from said user defining said password.

13. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 10, wherein said at least one command includes a plurality of commands.

14. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 13, wherein said plurality of commands comprise PRE commands according to DVD specifications.

15. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 11, wherein said control means creates said password menu screen and causes said password menu screen to be stored in said first program chain in response to an input from said user defining said password.

16. (Currently Amended) A digital storage device, comprising:
a plurality of data fields; and
wherein said data fields comprise a first program chain for storing a selected recording title, a user-assigned password for said selected recording title and a password menu screen for said selected recording title, said password menu screen prompting said user to input said user-assigned password if playback of said selected recording title is attempted, said first program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications.

17. (Previously Presented) The digital storage device of claim 16, wherein said digital storage device is a DVD.

18. (Previously Presented) The digital storage device of claim 16, wherein said first program chain also stores at least one command created in response to an input defining said user-assigned password.

19. (Previously Presented) The digital storage device of claim 16, wherein said password menu screen is created and stored in said first program chain in response to an input defining said user-assigned password.

20. (Previously Presented) The digital storage device of claim 18, wherein said at least one command causes said password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted, and input of said user-assigned password is required before playing back said selected recording title.